

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows, as required by the Examiner:

On page 3, line 27, please delete "As used in the claims, "a" can mean one or more."

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 13-18, 24-37 from further consideration with prejudice.

Please amend claims 1 and 71 as follows:

- Sub BT*  
*at*
1. An apparatus for treating gas prior to the use of the gas in a medical procedure involving a patient, the gas being received into the apparatus from an insufflator which receives gas from a gas source, and the gas exiting the apparatus being in flow communication with a means for delivering the gas to the interior of the patient, wherein the gas is pressure- and volumetric flow rate-controlled by the insufflator, the apparatus comprising:
- a) a housing defining a chamber having an entry port and an exit port, the exit port adapted to be in flow communication with the means for delivering and the entry port adapted to be in flow communication with the outlet of the insufflator; and
  - b) humidification means disposed within the chamber in the path of travel of the gas through the chamber for humidifying the gas as it travels through the chamber.

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71. The apparatus of claim 70, and further comprising:
- a) a temperature sensor disposed in the chamber to sense the temperature of the gas as it exits the chamber; and
  - b) a control circuit connected to the temperature sensor and to the heating element, and responsive to the temperature sensor to control electrical power to the heating element so as to regulate the amount of heat applied by the heating element to the gas within the chamber, thereby maintaining the gas at a desired temperature or within a desired temperature range.